



## NEWS RELEASE

**NEBRASKA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (NEMA) – 1300 MILITARY ROAD – LINCOLN, NE 68508-1090**  
**Joint Information Center (JIC)** **Flood Hotline: (855) 211-2453 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekdays**

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### Nebraska JIC Daily Update

## NEMA Continues to Monitor Flood Conditions

**Nebraska Emergency Management Agency** remains activated in response to ongoing flooding issues across the state. NEMA is collecting damage reports and monitoring flood conditions along the Missouri and Platte rivers and providing assistance to local emergency management officials in the flood- and storm-affected counties on a 24-hour basis.

**The NEMA Flood Hotline** is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays at **(855) 211-2453**. Flood and storm damage reports can be submitted at: <http://www.nema.ne.gov/newsroom/home-damage-contact.html>

## Good News for Travelers Concerned About Flooding in Nebraska

Flooding along the Missouri and North Platte rivers this summer has created confusion among some travelers about whether Nebraska attractions and destinations are affected. Most Nebraska attractions, festivals and travel destinations are open for business and overall, travel conditions across the state are good.

Even in communities along the Missouri River, most attractions and events are carrying on without disruption. However, as a result of rumors related to flooding, a number of travel-related businesses have reported reduced tourist activity compared to the same period in 2010.

Accordingly, communities such as Nebraska City, Brownville, Niobrara and South Sioux City are struggling to let travelers know they are dry, open and accessible. These towns offer many tourism opportunities, including state parks, museums, antique stores, galleries, wineries and more. In addition, conditions along many of the state's waterways — particularly the Niobrara, Loup, Dismal and Calamus rivers — are excellent for canoeing, tubing and kayaking. The eastern portion of the Platte River is ideal for airboat rides, and the Elkhorn River is perfect for tanking.

Go to [VisitNebraska.gov](http://VisitNebraska.gov) to learn more about the variety of fun activities available in Nebraska.

### **NEW** **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Begins Lowering Flow at Gavins Point Dam**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers decreased water flowing out of Gavins Point Dam to 155,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) on Saturday, July 30. Releases are scheduled to be reduced down to 150,000 cfs today. Flow rates are expected to be reduced gradually until the end of September, when flows are expected to be 40,000 cfs.

**UPDATED** **National Guard** -- 20 **Nebraska National Guardsmen** are supporting the Joint Operations Center, the State Emergency Operation Center as operations transition to local authorities.

## **NEW National Weather Service Update**

Generally dry and hot conditions will continue today

## **NO CHANGES Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) Recommended alternate routes:**

**To and from Kansas:** use **Highway 77** out of Lincoln and **Highway 81** out of York.

**Across Nebraska:** I-80 is expected to remain safe and dry route throughout the flooding months.

**Strongly suggested route:** If you are west of York on I-80 and intend to travel north on I-29 at Council Bluffs, consider taking **Highway 81** north at York to I-90 in South Dakota thus avoiding detour traffic in Iowa.

**Avoid Highway 75** because of existing construction projects, lane closures and flood mitigation operations.

**Avoid Highway 77** north of Lincoln because of delays due to bridge construction near Fremont.

## **NO CHANGES Road Closures** Call 511 or check online at [www.roads.ne.gov/flood/](http://www.roads.ne.gov/flood/) or [www.511.nebraska.gov](http://www.511.nebraska.gov)

**Highway 2** is closed from Nebraska City east into Iowa due to water covering the road on the Iowa side.

**Highway 12** is closed east of Niobrara from the east edge of Niobrara to the Santee Spur. A west section of **Highway 12** is also closed from Verdel to approximately three miles west of Niobrara.

**Highway 14/37** is closed from the junction with **Highway 12** to the Nebraska-South Dakota border (Standing Bear Bridge). **Highway 14** is open going south from the junction of **Highway 12**.

**Highway 175** at the Decatur Missouri River Crossing to Iowa is closed due to erosion of the bridge embankment on the Iowa side. Officials will evaluate the erosion and determine if work can be done to enable the bridge to reopen.

**Highway 136** is closed from Brownville east into Missouri due to water topping a levee on the Missouri side.

**Highway 159** is closed from Rulo as it runs east into Missouri. Closure is due to levee break on the Missouri side of Big Lake which resulted in water over the road on the Missouri side.

**I-680** into Iowa is closed due to I-680 in Iowa being covered by flood waters.

## **UPDATED River Levels** — National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service as of today:

### **Platte River**

**Henry** – 4.87 feet, flood stage is 5.5 feet

**Mitchell** – 5.4 feet, flood stage is 7.5 feet

**Minatare** – 4.8 feet, flood stage is 7.5 feet

**Bridgeport** – 6.1 feet, flood stage is 9.5 feet

**Lisco** – 2.32 feet, flood stage is 4 feet

**Lewellen** – 7 feet, flood stage is 7.5 feet

**North Platte** – 6.62 feet, flood stage is 6 feet

**Brady** – 6.99 feet, flood stage is 7.5 feet

**Cozad** – 4.39 feet, flood stage is 6.5 feet

**Overton** – 4.69 feet, flood stage is 7 feet

**Kearney** – 4.63 feet, flood stage is 6 feet

**Grand Island** – 4.97 feet, flood stage is 6.5 feet

**Duncan** – 5.29 feet, flood stage is 8 feet

**North Bend** – 5.1 feet, flood stage is 8 feet

**Leshara** – 5.11 feet, flood stage is 8 feet

**Ashland** – 16.74 feet, flood stage is 20 feet

**Louisville** – 4.81 feet, flood stage is 9 feet

### **Missouri River**

**Verdel** – 28.29 feet, flood stage is 24 feet

**Niobrara** – 25.99 feet, flood stage is 21 feet,

**South Sioux City** – 34.13 feet, flood stage is 30 feet

**Decatur** – 39.68 feet, flood stage is 35 feet

**Blair** – 31.08 feet, flood stage is 26.5 feet

**Omaha** – 34.96 feet, flood stage is 29 feet

**Plattsmouth** – 35.25 feet, flood stage is 26 feet

**Nebraska City** – 23.39 feet, flood stage is 18 feet

**Brownville** – 38.41 feet, flood stage is 33 feet

**Rulo** – 23.87 feet, flood stage is 17 feet



[List of County Emergency Managers](#)

[List of Nebraska Local Health Departments](#)

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